RESOLUTION NO. 20110804-026

WHEREAS, City of Austin elections, by City Charter, are held on the May uniform election date; and

WHEREAS, the City of Austin contracts with Travis, Williamson, and Hays counties for election administration services; and

WHEREAS, SB 100 passed during the 2011 legislative session adjusted timing requirements for federal primaries, which impacts the ability of county clerks and election administrators to provide election services on the May uniform election date in even numbered years; and

WHEREAS, under SB100, county elections administrators are not required to enter into a contract to furnish election services for elections held on the May uniform election date in even numbered years; and

WHEREAS, SB 100 gives cities the option to move municipal elections to the November uniform election date by Resolution; and

WHEREAS, It is an open question as to which governmental jurisdictions may consider providing election services for or participating in a May 2012 uniform election date election in the Austin area; and

WHEREAS, Council needs to evaluate options to make a fully informed decision on the timing of a 2012 municipal election; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

That the City Manager shall identify options for a May or a November 2012 City of Austin municipal election, including the purchase or rental of the City's own election system and collaboration with other governmental bodies considering holding an election on the May 2012 uniform election date within the City of Austin, and evaluate each option's cost and feasibility, including cost for staff, training, supplies, and technology.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,

That the City Manager shall report back to the City Council in a public briefing at the August 25, 2011 City Council Meeting.

ADOPTED: August 4, 2011 ATTEST: Shirley A. Gentry City Clerk